

### **REMARKS**

The present remarks are in response to the Office Action of October 18, 2005. Claims 1-8 are currently pending. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the following responsive remarks. The following matters were addressed by the Examiner:

- (1) claims 1, 2, and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,841,207 (hereinafter "Burch"); and
- (2) claims 3-7 were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The Applicants express appreciation for the allowance of claims 3-7.

#### **Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(e)**

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 2, and 8 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Burch, which was filed on September 30, 2002. The Applicants assert that the present invention embodied in these claims was invented prior to September 30, 2002, and a declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131, labeled Exhibit 1, is also provided herein. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of these claims with respect to Burch be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe that claims 1-8 present allowable subject matter and allowance is respectfully requested. If any impediment to the allowance of these claims remains, and such impediment could be resolved during a telephone interview, the Examiner is invited to telephone the assignee's counsel, W. Bradley Haymond at (541) 715-0159, so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

Please charge any additional fees except for Issue Fee or credit any overpayment  
to Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

Dated this 26<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,



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